

Appendix 6a

Letter and consent form for pupils to take part in the questionnaire research

School Address
[Date]

Dear [name]

My name is Tricia Waples, I am a teacher and I work with young people attending a hospital school. One of my roles is to support these young people return to mainstream education. I am currently undertaking research as part of an Education Doctorate with the University of Hertfordshire, on how young people who have been in hospital manage their transition back in to mainstream school.

As part of this research project I would like to hear the views of pupils in mainstream education regarding the issues around returning to school after a long absence.

This part of the study will involve your son/daughter completing a questionnaire, which has been approved by [name of headteacher], during [an agreed time and place].

I would like to stress that your son/daughter

- will be able to withdraw from the study at anytime
- will be able to withdraw part or all of the information provided at any time
- does not need to answer all the questions
- does not need to give me their name

and that

- information given will be kept confidentially, and will only be used in the project I have described
- your son/daughter will not be identifiable as an individual from the information in the project
- the project and hence the data will only be discussed with a small group of university tutors

At a later stage I may ask your son/daughter to meet with me to discuss their views in more detail. It is only if they are willing to take part in this second stage that they will need to put their name on the questionnaire. If your son/daughter offers to take part in this second stage I shall contact you again and explain the process in more detail.

I would be grateful if you could sign the attached consent form and return in the enclosed envelope.

Thank you for your support.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like any further information.

Yours Sincerely

Tricia Waples

Consent Form

I give consent for [son's/daughter's full name] to take part in the
above research project

Parent/guardian signature.....

Date.....

Appendix 6b

**Table giving full list of words, and frequency, given by the young people
(I use the spellings given by the young people)**

Frequency of derogatory words participants thought that their peers would use	Frequency of 'other' words participants thought that their peers would use
idiot x 4 retard x 12 thick, might call him thick spaz x4 , spas, spastic x2 dumb x 2, might call him dumb crazy x 7, crazy girl nutter nutcase nutty nutters weird x 9, weirdox 8, she's weird mad x 5 freak x 4 loner x 4 larny larry x 2 pathetic annoying slow dangerous looney psycho x 2 syco pshyco physco phyco x 2 phsyco cyco Schizo (skitzo) swearing at her horrible outkast wany wacko strange 'emo' just generally not very nice things other bad names which aren't the case crippled mental x 6 mentle lose x 4 looser you have no mates different abnormal stupid mong x 5 thug pity? rude words lots of other abusive names I think they would call her crazy or mental because they do not understand. When some students do not understand they make jokes about it. she's on the wacky backy wasterman x 2 fassyhole x 2 words that I needed to look up in the urban pumplex x 2 dictionary not very nice words un-stable odd quite harsh things	she's disabled depressed upset x 2 sad difficult x 2 unfortunate lonely isolated x 2 troubled messed up confused x 2 grumpy strong brave special treatment feel sorry for her- try to be nice, might need some patience, feel sorry for him but not enough to be his friend don't know how to be around her the same as me she is the same as any other person she has problems had a difficult childhood mentally ill ill x 2 don't know x 2 don't know but probably bully him different x 4 funny poor her shame she's so nice why? worth a chance to get to know them some people would treat him as if he was different some would understand and try to help/talk to him others would stay away It's not her fault she had to go through all that they probably wouldn't talk about her might not always mean what she says
Frequency of derogatory words that the participants themselves thought that they would use	Frequency of 'other words' that the participants themselves thought that they would use
bit crazy, crazy, would think he's a bit crazy nutjob, nutty not all there	Under achieving, not up to date, behind in work, behind I think Bee would be feeling lost, helpless, troubled, mis-understood, lost

<p> off her trolley strange mental weird x 3 she's on the wacky backy loser x 2 wasterman x 2 fassyhole x2 pumplex x 2 retard x 2 loony psycho physisco a pity case just bad names but I would help them when I could </p>	<p> lonely x 7 isolated x 3 not many friends, no friends, unable to integrate with others, not very popular, not fitting in as well as others scared x 2, afraid, she might be scared or uncomfortable, nervous, she was scared didn't know what to do uncomfortable in their surroundings, vulnerable, not used to how things work, insecure troubled x 2, unsure, fragile x 3, difficult, feels worthless, unwanted annoyed, angry, frustrated, struggling tired depressed x 3 disadvantaged, disabled unfortunate x 3 sick upset, sad x 2, unhappy possibly a friend hard working Getting better x 2, glad she's getting better, had been upset but now better, recovered and well, attempting to fit back in, recovering positive strong brave amazing Bee was a bright student until he became down. experienced Special attention is needed with this person, she needs support and a close group of friends, needs stability and routine, needing help and care, young girl who has been suffering from certain disabilities for a long period of time, might need some patience, needs support from friends and family, in need of a good friend, needs someone to talk to who is there for her that understands her, someone she can trust to go to for anything, needs to learn how to cope with certain situations to improve how she feels, worth a chance to get to know them, I think Bee would be feeling lost special human-being, special x 2 I would feel sorry for her as she has been away for so long, I would want to befriend her to try and help her but would be conscious of what has happened previously, I wouldn't describe her she would be the same as any other person to me but has just missed a while of school, I'd feel sorry for them, I would call their name x 2, He is like everyone else, nothing, a normal girl who has had some problems, normal, no-different She has a few problems with her at the moment, rough time, had a difficult childhood, she has been away with some problems, suffers a mental illness, mental disability, might not always mean what she says ill x 3 What was rong? don't know x 2 different x 3 timid </p>
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